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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
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BURNING OVER WASTE LANDS  
A MENACE TO WILDFOWL

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The practice in some sections of burning over waste land and marshes during April and May frequently results in great destruction of bird life and birds' nests and eggs, particularly on marsh land where wild ducks breed, according to the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture. The department suggests that where it is at all possible the growth should be left alone, or the marshes burned previous to the arrival of the birds or the building of the nests, which would be, generally speaking, in February and March. In many instances the burning is unnecessary and no good purpose is served by it. Due to the draining of numerous areas throughout the country for agricultural purposes, suitable breeding places for birds are constantly becoming fewer in number, and for this reason the unnecessary burning over of waste lands and marshes should be discouraged everywhere by bird lovers, conservationists, and sportsmen.

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